



WHEREAS, protecting adults and those with disabilities is an important undertaking conducted admirably by the Illinois Department on Aging (DOA), its Office of Adult Protective Services, and providers throughout the state; and,

WHEREAS, in 2021, DOA responded to more than 20,000 reports of abuse of adults age 60 and older, and persons ages 18-59 with a disability, though the crisis remains vastly under-identified and under-reported; and,

WHEREAS, abuse may take many forms, including financial exploitation, emotional abuse, passive neglect, physical abuse, willful deprivation, abandonment, confinement, sexual abuse, and self-neglect, often occurring in tandem; and,

WHEREAS, victims are often abused by family members or other relatives; and,

WHEREAS, abuse, neglect, and exploitation of any individual is an affront to human rights in Illinois and around the world; and,

WHEREAS, the Adult Protective Services Act is a law created in Illinois to help this vulnerable population by stopping abuse and putting in protective barriers and services in place to achieve safety; and,

WHEREAS, it is important for all Americans and all Illinoisans to learn to recognize and report any signs of mistreatment and redouble our efforts to build communities that safeguard our elders and persons with disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, suspected abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation of an eligible adult should be reported to the statewide 24-hour Abuse Hotline at 866-800-1409; and,

WHEREAS, abuse of adults is a worldwide problem - Elder Abuse Awareness Day began 16 years ago at the United Nations by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2022 as **Elder Abuse Awareness Day** in Illinois.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this EIGHTH *day of* APRIL, *in*
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-TWO, *and of the State of Illinois,*
two hundred and FOURTH.

Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR